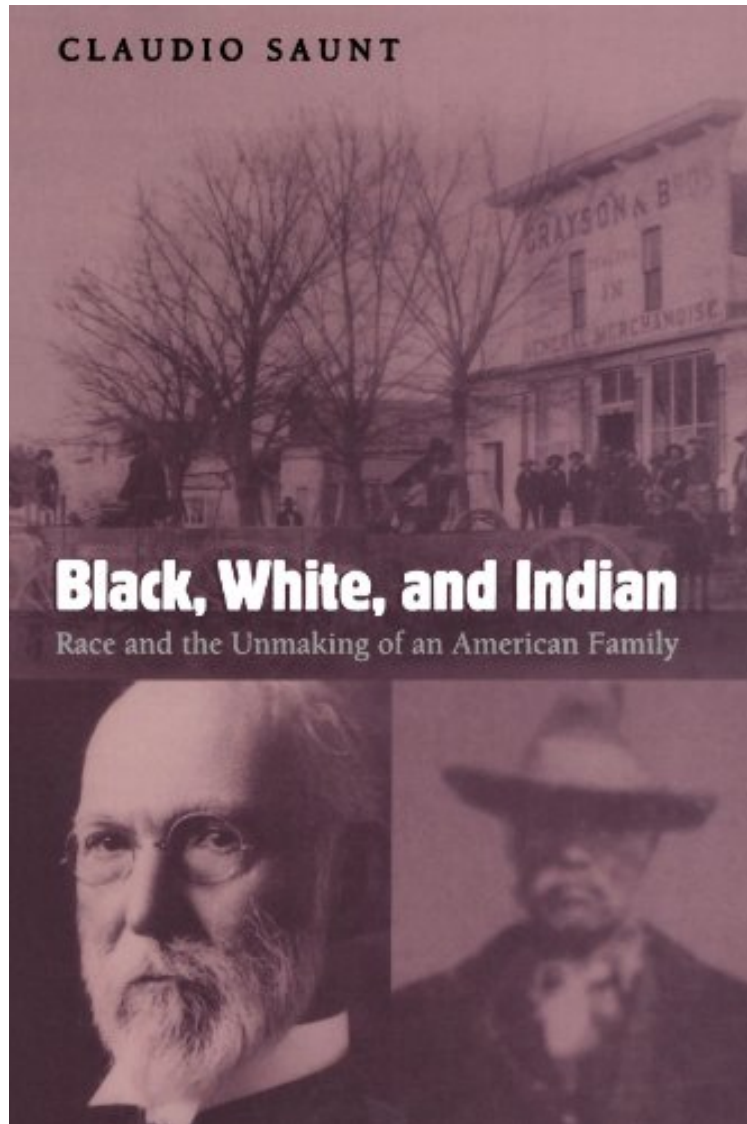


(Ebook free) Black, White, and Indian: Race and the Unmaking of an American Family

Black, White, and Indian: Race and the Unmaking of an American Family

Claudio Saunt

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#93985 in Books Claudio Saunt 2006-07-27 Original language: English PDF # 1 6.10 x .80 x 9.201, 1.00 #File Name: 0195313100312 pages Black White and Indian Race and the Unmaking of an American Family | File size: 46.Mb

Claudio Saunt : Black, White, and Indian: Race and the Unmaking of an American Family before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Black, White, and Indian: Race and the Unmaking of an American Family:

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book read like an historical novel, but is southern history revised toward a realism which is so often lacking in pastoral accounts of the south. The book adds an unvarnished racial view of the south before it was burnished by the neo-confederacy. But for the avarious wanton takeover, the south would have possibly looked like the proverbial melting pot often spoken of but so rarely achieved in our culture. Santo, helps explain why the bones of the south are still bloody and why Negro and Negro Indians wealth, in any form, is lifitesimal and poverty is endemic for this segment of our population.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Robert Grierson is a relative found out on ancestry.comBy PatriciaFantastic1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Would like more information on the Davis-Grayson family historyBy Aaron Foster Jr.This book tells the untold story of my family and they made it to California, Also, There's a movie about them in Tulsa Oklahoma. The movie is Rose Wood, Would like more information on the Davis-Grayson family history, So many missing links.

Deceit, compromise, and betrayal were the painful costs of becoming American for many families. For people of Indian, African, and European descent living in the newly formed United States, the most personal and emotional choices--to honor a friendship or pursue an intimate relationship--were often necessarily guided by the harsh economic realities imposed by the country's racial hierarchy. Few families in American history embody this struggle to survive the pervasive onslaught of racism more than the Graysons. Like many other residents of the eighteenth-century Native American South, where Black-Indian relations bore little social stigma, Katy Grayson and her brother William--both Creek Indians--had children with partners of African descent. As the plantation economy began to spread across their native land soon after the birth of the American republic, however, Katy abandoned her black partner and children to marry a Scottish-Creek man. She herself became a slaveholder, embracing slavery as a public display of her elevated place in America's racial hierarchy. William, by contrast, refused to leave his black wife and their several children and even legally emancipated them. Traveling separate paths, the Graysons survived the invasion of the Creek Nation by U.S. troops in 1813 and again in 1836 and endured the Trail of Tears, only to confront each other on the battlefield during the Civil War. Afterwards, they refused to recognize each other's existence. In 1907, when Creek Indians became U.S. citizens, Oklahoma gave force of law to the family schism by defining some Graysons as white, others as black. Tracking a full five generations of the Grayson family and basing his account in part on unprecedented access to the forty-four volume diary of G. W. Grayson, the one-time principal chief of the Creek Nation, Claudio Saunt tells not only of America's past, but of its present, shedding light on one of the most contentious issues in Indian politics, the role of "blood" in the construction of identity. Overwhelmed by the racial hierarchy in the United States and compelled to adopt the very ideology that oppressed them, the Graysons denied their kin, enslaved their relatives, married their masters, and went to war against each other. Claudio Saunt gives us not only a remarkable saga in its own right but one that illustrates the centrality of race in the American experience.

From BooklistHistory professor Saunt examines the complicated history of race in America through five generations of a Native American family, the Graysons, whose long-denied descendants include African slaves. From 1780 to 1920, Saunt traces the Graysons and their interaction and intermixing with whites and blacks. At the center of this family saga is Katy Grayson, a Creek woman, who, along with her brother, had children with partners of African descent. Katy later married a Scottish-Creek man, disowned her black children, and became a slave owner. Her brother, William, stayed with his black wife and children, later emancipating them. In 1907, when Creeks were granted U.S. citizenship, state law split the family by defining some as black and some as white. The divergent paths of these families parallel the interactions among whites, blacks, and Indians as racial and social differences solidified through slavery and the mistreatment of Indians. This is a fascinating look at a seldom-recognized aspect of American race relations. Vernon FordCopyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "The strength of Saunt's narrative is the juxtaposition of social constructions of race skewed by emotions and convictions.... Enriching the mosaic of American race far beyond the duality of white and black, Saunt illuminates a racial picture that blends black, Indian, white, and class beyond simple description."--William L. Hewitt, *The Journal of American History*"Black, White, and Indian is an enormously valuable book, one that any scholar interested in Native or American history could profit from and one that could be taught in undergraduate and graduate classes. A wonderful example of what can happen when a talented historian tells an important story about which he cares deeply. The results are likely to stay with you for a long, long time.--Joshua Piker, *American Indian Culture and Research Journal*"Southern Indians, Saunt's book makes clear (better than any other work presently available), participated in and were victimized by the entrenchment of racism and racial understandings of human abilities by southerners and Americans generally. That dichotomy between Indians as enablers of racism and Indians as victims of racism guides Saunt's book and exposes sometimes discomfoting realities of life for southern Indians since the United States arrived in their world.... Black, White, and Indian is enlightening, disturbing, and a welcome addition to Americna Indian and Southern history."--Greg O'Brien, *H-Net s*"All histories, especially family histories, harbor silences wherein uneasy truths reside. But few such histories--once those silences grow full with stories--speak so directly to the central sorrows in American society, past and present, as that of the Grayson family. Claudio Saunt's sensitive and daring

recovery of the Grayson's centuries-long struggle to navigate the perilous racial triangle of Black, white, and Indian is at once irresistible and heartbreaking. It is a work for the ages."--James F. Brooks, author of *Confounding the Color Line: The Indian-Black Experience in North America*"Meticulously researched, eloquently written, and full of the pain of slavery, dispossession, racism, and history itself, *Black, White, and Indian* sits at the leading edge of the exciting body of new work on African/American/Indian relations."-- Philip J. Deloria, University of Michigan"The intersections between Native American history and the history of race in America are not always clear. Too often fear and fantasy obscure our memory and our vision. This compelling story of human beings struggling to survive and make lives for themselves and their families shines a fascinating light on the many places where red and black and white overlapped, blurred, and made history. This is a very important book."--Frederick E. Hoxie, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

From the Inside Flap

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